

Sub B3
A2
8. (Amended) An information carrier comprising a recording medium storing an audio signal, said audio signal is copy protected by mixing the audio signal, prior to storing, with at least one non-audible disturbance signal having a frequency in the range of 1 Hz to 10 Hz.

9. (Amended) A device for protecting audio signals against copying, the device comprising:

signal generation means for generating at least one non-audible disturbance signal;

mixing means for mixing the at least one disturbance signal with the audio signal, wherein said mixing means includes adding means; and

output means for outputting the resulting mixed audio signal.

10. (Canceled)

Please add new Claims 18-20 as follows:

Sub B5
A3
-- 18. (New) A method of protecting an audio signal against copying, the method comprising:

mixing the audio signal with a non-audible disturbance signal,

wherein the mixing step includes adding a low-frequency disturbance signal to the audio signal or multiplying the audio signal with a high-frequency disturbance signal to provide direct copy protection functionality.

19. The method as in claim 18, wherein the low-frequency disturbance signal has a range of 1Hz to 10 Hz.